

## PATENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated in the following listing of all claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A keyboard comprising:
  - a first keyboard segment, the first keyboard segment including keys;
  - a second keyboard segment, the second keyboard segment including keys; and
  - a joint coupling the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment, the joint including a socket and a ball retained therein and allowing movement of the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment to pivot relative to one another, the joint including ; and
  - a locking mechanism, the locking mechanism locking ~~a position~~ the pivoting of the first keyboard segment relative to the second keyboard segment, wherein the socket retains the ball in both locked and unlocked positions of the locking mechanism, the ball being affixed to one of the keyboard segments.
  - ~~the locking mechanism including a cam~~
2. **(Currently Amended)** The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:
  - the first keyboard segment contains a recess and the locking mechanism includes a lever, the lever positioned either in or out of the recess in the first keyboard segment when the ~~position~~ pivoting of the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment is either locked or unlocked by the locking mechanism.
3. **(Previously Presented)** The keyboard of claim 2, wherein:
  - the lever is pivotally mounted on a pin mounted in the first keyboard segment or the second keyboard segment.
4. **(Currently Amended)** The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:
  - the locking mechanism includes a bearing element and a cam, the cam being connected to the bearing element, movement of the cam causing movement of the bearing element.

## PATENT

5. *(Currently Amended)* The keyboard of claim 4, wherein:  
the joint includes a ball, the bearing element engaging the ball in a locked position to lock the first segment relative to the second segment.
6. (Original) The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:  
the joint is a ball-and-socket joint.
7. *(Currently Amended)* The keyboard of claim 2, wherein:  
the locking mechanism includes a biasing element and a cam, the biasing element biasing the cam and lever.
8. *(Currently Amended)* The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:  
the joint includes a ball, the ball being affixed to one of the keyboard segments is spherical.
9. *(Canceled)*
10. *(Currently Amended)* The keyboard of claim 8, wherein:  
the ball is hemispherical.
11. *(Currently Amended)* The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:  
the joint includes a socket element, the socket element being is affixed to one of the keyboard segments.
12. *(Currently Amended)* The keyboard of claim 11, wherein the locking mechanism further comprises:  
the joint includes a ball, the ball being affixed to another of the keyboard segments a cam, operable to frictionally engage the ball and socket.
13. (Previously Presented) The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:  
the locking mechanism includes a clutch.

## PATENT

14. (Original) The keyboard of claim 13, wherein:  
the movable bearing element has a hemispherical surface.
15. (Original) The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:  
the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment are positionable relative to one another to reduce pronation of a user's wrists.
16. (Original) The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:  
the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment are positionable relative to one another to reduce ulnar deviation of a user's wrists.
17. (Original) The keyboard of claim 1, wherein:  
the joint is adapted to allow pivoting of the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment in both horizontal and vertical directions.
18. (*Currently Amended*) A keyboard comprising:  
a first keyboard segment, the first keyboard segment including keys;  
a second keyboard segment, the second keyboard segment including keys;  
a third keyboard segment, the third keyboard segment including keys;  
a hinge coupling the second keyboard segment and the third keyboard segment;  
and  
a joint coupling the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment, the joint including a socket and a ball retained therein and allowing movement of the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment to pivot relative to one another, the joint including ; and  
a locking mechanism, the locking mechanism locking ~~a position~~ the pivoting of the first keyboard segment relative to the second keyboard segment, the locking mechanism including a lever movable from a locking position to an unlocking position wherein the socket retains the ball in both locked and unlocked positions of the locking mechanism, the ball being affixed to one of the keyboard segments.

## PATENT

19. (Original) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the locking mechanism includes a bearing element and a cam, the cam being  
connected to the bearing element, movement of the cam causing movement of  
the bearing element.
20. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the joint includes a ball and a bearing element, the bearing element engaging the ball  
in the locked position to lock the first segment relative to the second segment.
21. (Original) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the joint is a ball-and-socket joint.
22. (Original) The keyboard of claim 19, wherein:  
the locking mechanism includes a biasing element, the biasing element biasing the  
cam and lever.
23. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the joint includes a ball, the ball being affixed to one of the keyboard segments is  
spherical.
24. (*Canceled*)
25. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim ~~23~~ 18, wherein:  
the ball is hemispherical.
26. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the joint includes a socket element, the socket element being is affixed to one of the  
keyboard segments.

## PATENT

27. *(Currently Amended)* The keyboard of claim 26 18, wherein the locking mechanism further comprises:  
the joint includes a ball, the ball being affixed to another of the keyboard segments a  
cam, operable to frictionally engage the ball and socket.
28. (Original) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the locking mechanism includes a movable bearing element.
29. (Original) The keyboard of claim 28, wherein:  
the movable bearing element has a hemispherical surface.
30. (Original) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment are positionable relative  
to one another to reduce pronation of a user's wrists.
31. (Original) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment are positionable relative  
to one another to reduce ulnar deviation of a user's wrists.
32. (Original) The keyboard of claim 18, wherein:  
the joint is adapted to allow pivoting of the first keyboard segment and the second  
keyboard segment in both horizontal and vertical directions.
33. *(Currently Amended)* A keyboard comprising:  
a first keyboard segment, the first keyboard segment including keys;  
a second keyboard segment, the second keyboard segment including keys; and  
a joint coupling the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment, the  
joint including a socket and a ball retained therein and allowing movement of  
the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment to pivot relative  
to one another, ~~the joint including ; and~~  
a locking mechanism, the locking mechanism locking ~~a position~~ the pivoting of the  
first keyboard segment relative to the second keyboard segment, wherein the

## PATENT

socket retains the ball in both locked and unlocked positions of the locking mechanism, the ball being affixed to one of the keyboard segments,  
~~the locking mechanism including a cam and a ball and socket,~~ the ball and socket being frictionally coupled when the locking mechanism is in a locked position, the ball and socket being urged towards one another when the locking mechanism is in a locked position the socket maintaining substantially the same shape when the locking mechanism is in either a locked or unlocked position.

34. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:

the locking mechanism includes a movable bearing element, the movable bearing element ~~has~~having a hemispherical surface.

35. (Original) The keyboard of claim 34, wherein:

the locking mechanism includes a lever movable from a locking position to an unlocking position.

36. (Original) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:

the locking mechanism includes a cam.

37. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim 36, wherein:

the locking mechanism includes a movable bearing element, and a cam,  
the cam is connected to the bearing element, movement of the cam causing movement of the bearing element.

38. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:

~~the joint includes a ball,~~ the locking mechanism includes a movable bearing element,  
the bearing element engaging the ball in a locked position to lock the first segment relative to the second segment.

39. (Original) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:

the joint is a ball-and-socket joint.

## PATENT

40. (Original) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:  
the locking mechanism includes a biasing element.
41. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:  
~~the joint includes a ball, the ball being affixed to one of the keyboard segments~~ is  
spherical.
42. (Original) The keyboard of claim ~~41~~ 33, wherein:  
the ball is hemispherical.
43. (*Currently Amended*) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:  
~~the joint includes a socket element, the socket element being~~ is affixed to one of the  
keyboard segments.
44. (*Canceled*)
45. (Original) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:  
the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment are positionable relative  
to one another to reduce pronation of a user's wrists.
46. (Original) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:  
the first keyboard segment and the second keyboard segment are positionable relative  
to one another to reduce ulnar deviation of a user's wrists.
47. (Original) The keyboard of claim 33, wherein:  
the joint is adapted to allow pivoting of the first keyboard segment and the second  
keyboard segment in both horizontal and vertical directions.

## PATENT

48. (*Currently Amended*) A method of adjusting a keyboard having first and second segments coupled by a joint, comprising:
- providing a locking mechanism including a user-operable lever the lever sized to fit at least partially in a recess in one of the segments when the lever is in a locked position to allow a user to gain access to the lever;
  - unlocking the locking mechanism by pivoting the lever away from the recess;
  - moving the first and second segments in at least one plane; and
  - locking the locking mechanism by pivoting the lever to thereby lock a position of the first keyboard segment relative to the second keyboard segment.
49. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein:
- the first and second segments are moved in two planes.